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presents

A Celebration of Music

In the Mood

March 21, 1992 *8:00 pm*

Downtown United Presbyterian Church

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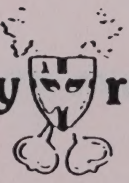
dignity-integrity  **rochester**

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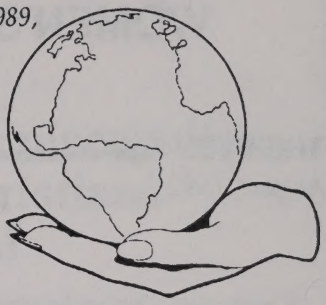

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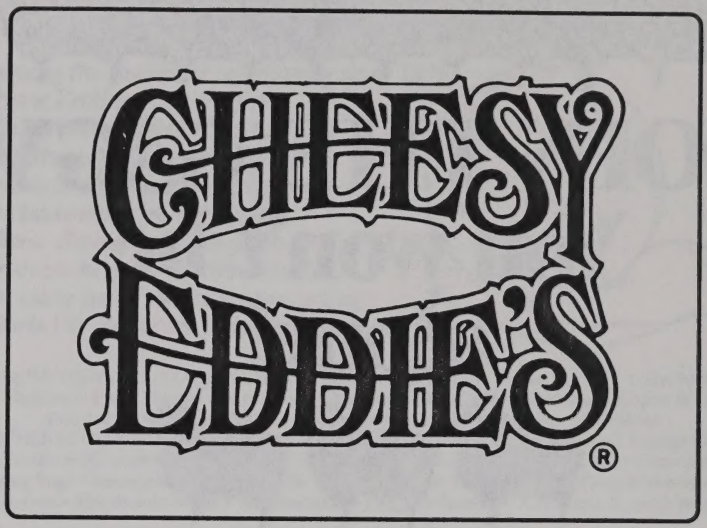

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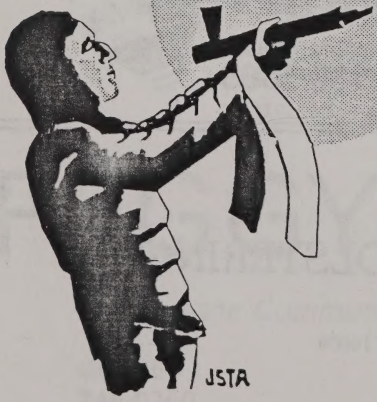

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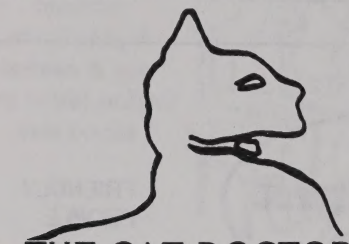

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ROCHESTER WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS (RWCC)

RWCC was founded for the purpose of bringing music to the community of Rochester. It is dedicated to being a high-quality musical group that provides a vehicle for communicating a message of peace, understanding, and non-oppression. RWCC ascribes to the belief that all people are equal and therefore supports human rights for the benefit of all. Their performances and rehearsals are accessible to the hearing-impaired and differently-abled people.

RWCC does not discriminate in its membership on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or political affiliation; however, the performing (vocal) aspect of the chorus is to be made of women only. In all other aspects, RWCC welcomes support from both men and women. RWCC seeks to bring its music to the general population, including gay and gay supportive organizations, women's groups, political organizations, and the musical community.

RWCC reserves the right to decline invitations to perform at functions or events that RWCC deems prejudicial or discriminatory in nature or contradict the philosophy of RWCC.

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Deborah Wachspress, Musical Director

Deborah received a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the Crane School of Music in 1979 and a Master's Degree in Education from SUNY Geneseo in 1984. Deborah has taught vocal and instrumental music in the Rochester City Schools for 12 years. Deborah's goal in founding RWCC in 1985 was to bring together a diverse group of women who have had a variety of singing experiences. Using music, the group has brought its message of peace and social consciousness to the Rochester community for the past seven years.

Karen Hagberg, Accompanist

Karen recently returned to Rochester after 3 1/2 years in Japan studying the Suzuki Piano Method. She has resumed teaching here at her new studio at 8 Prince Street. Karen has travelled widely as a Suzuki Method clinician throughout the US and Canada and also within Singapore and Australia. She has written a book about her work in Japan, titled When the Student Is Ready, the Teacher Appears.

Cindy Barrett, Artistic Interpreter

Cindy grew up in New Jersey but has been at home in Rochester for the last 12 years. She received her AAS degree in interpreting 10 years ago and since then has been involved in educational sign language interpretation at RIT and in the community.

Artistic interpretation, however, is Cindy's specialty. Some of the performers she has worked with include Faith Patric, Alix Dobkin, Lucy Blue Tremblay, Lea DeLaria, Teresa Trull, Ferron, and Allen Ginsberg.

Leah Zicari, Guest Performer

Leah Zicari received a Master's Degree in Classical Guitar Performance from SUNY Buffalo in 1988. Having always been active politically and musically in the Women's and Gay and Lesbian communities, she has broadened her career focus to include popular styles. She has toured with Romanovsky & Phillips and has concertized throughout the United States and Canada, appearing on stage with such artists as Judy Collins, Holly Near, and Sue Fink. Her other credits include television, radio, and theater appearances and she has composed music for television and videos. The release of her debut recording, Wouldn't That Be Fun? has attracted the attention of prominent performing artists, producers, and distributors and currently receives international airplay. She was named Favorite New Performer in the 1991 Hotwire Reader's Choice Awards.

Leah teaches guitar to private students as well as in community education programs. She has substitute taught in schools and works as a Teaching-Artist with the Arts in Education Institute of Western New York. She has lectured at universities on Women's Music, Protest Music of the 20th Century, and the Guitar, Its History and Composers. She is the 1990 recipient of the Gay and Lesbian Community Achievement Award of Buffalo, New York, where she currently resides.

Doney Oatman, Interpreter

Doney, a California native, came to Rochester 5 years ago to work at RIT. She has interpreted throughout the United States. Doney is very involved in women's music and the lesbian community.

PROGRAM

The Chorus

1-1
1-2 Two South African Freedom Songs
(Traditional, collected and edited by Anders Nyberg)
Conga: Jo Cummings

1-3 Jeanie With the Light Brown Hair
(Stephen Foster, arranged by Julian Harvey)

The Chorus and Danielle Ross, Martha Brown, Terry Keister

1-4 Echo Song
(Orlando DiLasso, English version by Alfred Marlhom, arranged by Gerald Gore)

The Chorus

1-5 All the Pretty Little Horses
(Traditional, arranged by Arthur Frackenpohl)

1-6 This We Know (Ron Jeffers, text by Chief Seattle)
Narrator: Kathy Sanger

1-7 Lo Yisa Goy (Text: Isaiah 2:4)
Flute: Deborah Wachspress

Danielle Ross, Martha Brown, Terry Keister

1-8 Gracias a la Vida (Violeta Parra, arranged by Lynn Wilson)
Guitarist: Leah Zicari
Conga: Jo Cummings

Leah Zicari

Selections from her repertoire of feminist and lesbian music

INTERMISSION
(10 minutes)

2nd tape

PROGRAM

chorus enters from behind
Leah from left side (2) mikes for Leahs
2-1 **Leah Zicari and the Chorus** 1-2 ft. from end of stage

Springtime (Leah Zicari)

Laws (Leah Zicari)

Martina (Leah Zicari)

Big Yellow Taxi (Joni Mitchell)

chorus exits from behind
change
2-2 Two other selections from Leah's original compositions → MUSIC STAND on left side
Three

Chorus enters from sides
Miles of stage

The Chorus

2-3 Sweet Georgia Brown
(B. Bernie, M. Pinkand, K. Casey - arranged by Kirby Shaw)

2-4 Blues In The Night
(Harold Arlen, words by Johnny Mercer - arranged by Kirby Shaw)

2-5 It's Bad for Me (The Roaches)

2-6 In the Mood (Joe Garland)
Instrumental Percussion: Barbara Johnston
Trumpet Drums

Chorus exits sides
change back
Chorus enters sides

Introduce **The Chorus and Audience Sing-along**

In Our Hands
(D. Shire, D. Pomeranz - arranged by Mark A. Brymer)

Men from behind

The Chorus and Members of the Rochester Gay Men's Chorus

Diversity (S. Henderson, lyrics by Bob Daggett)

Battle Hymn of the Republic (Traditional, lyrics by L. Zicari)
Soloist: Leah Zicari – No Guitar

Mike on floor for Leah
Leave room for interpreter

PROGRAM NOTES

South African Freedom Songs

In the foreword to the full collection of these songs, Anders Nyberg states, "The singer can be silenced but never the song." The songs speak of the ever present issue of freedom in South Africa and of the spiritual determination that overcomes oppression.

Echo Song

In the sixteenth century, in Italy and England, secular music started to become quite popular. Most songs were about unrequited love or humorous subjects and often used nonsense words as a type of refrain. "Echo Song" is an example of an Italian madrigal transcribed into English.

This We Know

With the 500th anniversary of Columbus' sailing being celebrated, it is imperative that we remember the consequences of that voyage on Native Americans and all people of color. "This We Know" was put to music by Ron Jeffers from an American Indian story told by Chief Seattle. In this story, the Chief reminds the listener that Mother Nature provides the lifesource and spiritual foundation needed for survival.

Lo Yisa Goy

The translation of the traditional Hebrew song "Lo Yisa Goy" is "Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore." It is a poignantly beautiful melody that is a less widely known setting of a familiar text. This song reminds us of the work that still needs to be done to create a just and peaceful world.

PROGRAM NOTES

Gracias a la Vida

"Gracias a la Vida" is a traditional Chilean song. The text has been put to different melodies and has been sung by such notable women performers as Holly Near and Joan Baez.

In Our Hands

"In Our Hands" was the International theme song of the World Summit for Children. On Sept. 23, 1990, over one million adults and children gathered in 75 countries to show support for the Summit.

Sing-along

In our hands there's a world in our care
In our hands lies the power we share
In our hands it can grow even more
than we know
When we all understand
All that is in our hands.

Diversity

The song "Diversity" was composed by Scott Henderson for the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles. It was performed as the opening number by the Celebration Festival Chorus at the 1990 Gay Olympic Games held in Vancouver,B.C.

Battle Hymn of the Republic

Leah Zicari is fast becoming a well known recording and performing artist on the "women's music" circuit. In this song, the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," she has taken a traditional patriotic song and changed the text to reflect the pride and struggles of being homosexual in a heterosexual identified society.

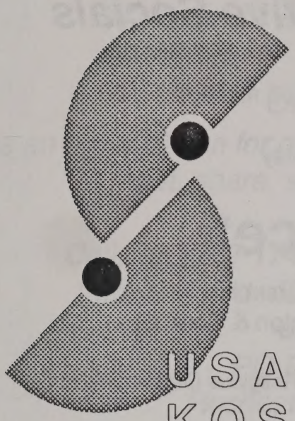
THE ROCHESTER WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CHORUS

SOPRANOS	SECOND SOPRANOS	ALTOS
Barbara Deitz	Martha Brown	Barb DiFlorio
Tawn Feeney	Susan Cergol	Emily Jones
Lynx Gallucci	Amy Friend	Terry Keister
Betty Martin	Elizabeth Prothero	Jan Metcalf
Danielle Ross		Leslie Myers
		Kathy Pawlaczyk
		Kathy Sanger

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director	Susan David
Sound	Ralph Hunk
Accountant	Floyd Austin
Program	Maria Sohn

The RWCC is a member of GALA Choruses (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses), an international alliance of over 100 men's, women's and mixed choruses dedicated to providing leadership and inspiration to the gay and lesbian movement through excellence in the choral arts. GALA Choruses produces a festival every 4 years — the next is in Denver in 1992 — and also plans annual conferences for directors and managers, addresses problems of mutual concern, and assists with the sharing of music holdings. The Rochester Gay Men's Chorus is performing in this year's festival. Additionally, three members of the RWCC will perform in commissioned pieces during the festival.



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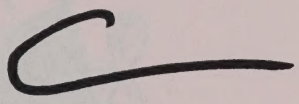
a from Anne Seale...

So sorry I can't be there tonight to hear my favorite chorus and my buddy Leah, but we're off to New Jersey doing shows of our own. Many thanks to Deb and the chorus for allowing us to perform with you in the "January Thaw" concert last year. It was the start of something big! Bless you all!!!



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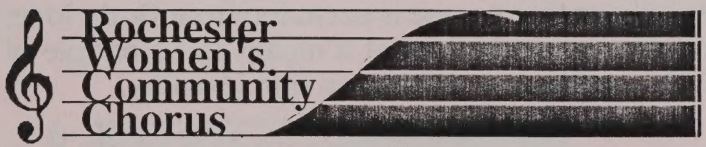

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Rochester Women's Community Chorus

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